

quarterly

2010.3 & 4 DOUBLE ISSUE

Victory for Finland's forests

A 10 year campaign ends with success

GREENPEACE



The Legacy of the Deepwater Horizon

Going Beyond Oil

Whaling, Human Rights and the Japanese Media

International

quarterly 2010.3 & 4

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GREENPEACE

Dear friends,

At the time of writing, the end of 2010 is rapidly approaching, and I wanted to share with you some of the thoughts I've developed during my first year as executive director of Greenpeace International.

In the past 12 months, I have seen – once again – that positive change is possible: across industries, governments and civil society. To realise our maximum effectiveness, Greenpeace has followed two seemingly different but ultimately complementary paths: amplifying resistance to environmental destruction (whether chaining ourselves to oil platforms in the Arctic – see the account of this by Ben Stewart on page 12 - or to tractors in the heart of the Indonesian rainforest) while forging new alliances with a broad range of partners.

I am mindful, however, that this is still not enough to bring about the changes necessary to avert catastrophic climate change and protect our planet for our children and our grandchildren. While our opponents might have more material wealth, Greenpeace has the strength that comes from working for the greater cause of environmental justice. Now more than ever we will need to draw upon all of our strengths if we are to win the struggle for climate justice. Together with many others, we will need to become a force so large and so outspoken that the politicians and industries that currently choose to ignore our demands will have no choice but to give in to the will of the people. I am confident we can succeed.

To realise our maximum effectiveness, Greenpeace has followed two seemingly different but ultimately complementary paths: amplifying resistance to environmental destruction (whether chaining ourselves to oil platforms in Greenland – see the account of this by Ben Stewart on page 12 - or to tractors in the heart of the Indonesian rainforest, for example) while forging new alliances with a broad range of partners.

Around the world, I have participated in debates, actions and direct dialogues; I met with heads of state, as well as industry and civil society leaders, to discuss concrete steps for action to curb climate change. Along with selected journalists whose coverage helped draw attention to our issues, I travelled to bear witness to rainforest destruction in Indonesia and Brazil, to witness the horror that is the Canadian tar sands, the despair of Chinese coal mines, the dangers of nuclear waste and dozens more examples of the way humankind is currently destroying the planet. Yet for each catastrophe, I was also exposed to scores of courageous men and women committed to the struggle for environmental justice. This issue of The Quarterly brings you more news of these courageous men and women – from the story of Greenpeace campaigners who have spent a decade fighting for the rights of indigenous peoples and protecting the Finnish pine forests, to the latest news of the 'Tokyo Two', who recently stood trial for their work exposing corruption in the Japanese whaling industry.

The space for activism and democratic dialogue has continued to shrink this year. Right now, we have activists on trial around the globe, some facing prison sentences, for the 'crime' of peaceful, non-violent direct action. Because the freedom to speak truth to power is such an essential part of what Greenpeace does, a vital element in healthy democracy and an ingredient for positive change, we will continue to push back on the forces that are making activism a crime. As we have done so for 40 years, we will continue to push vigorously for the change we want to see in the world – for the transformation necessary to preserve our planet for future generations. I have always believed that Greenpeace was a world treasure – how better to describe an international organisation of supporters, volunteers and staff working together towards this noble goal?



This past year has shown me that Greenpeace is more than a world treasure: it is a force of nature.

Kumi Naidoo

Kumi Naidoo
International Executive Director

greenpeace in cancún

agreement builds towards a global climate deal



Governments at COP16 - the UN climate conference in Cancún, Mexico - chose hope over fear and put the building blocks back in place for a global deal to combat climate change. For the first time in years, governments put aside some major differences and compromised to reach a climate agreement. After years of walkouts, public booing, blocking and the collapse of talks, governments have shown that they can compromise and cooperate, key ingredients in moving forward to achieve a global deal. Governments now have a lot of work to do to follow through on the Cancún agreement. Specifically, they need to double their efforts to cut emissions. For those of us in civil society we need to demand that our leaders redouble their efforts to drive change at home.

Here are the major points of work that will need to be followed in order to make this agreement a real one and a good one:

- On the key issue of climate finance, governments established a fund to deliver the billions needed for the developing world to deal with climate change and stop deforestation - but they didn't establish any way of providing that money.
- Also on the table was a mechanism to protect tropical forests while safeguarding indigenous peoples' rights and biodiversity. The REDD agreement sidesteps some critical parts that must be defined and strengthened over the coming months.
- Governments not only acknowledged the gap between their current weak pledges to cut greenhouse gas emissions and where they need to get to, they actually stated that cuts needed to be in line with the science – 25% to 40% cuts by 2020 – and that they need to keep global temperature rise below 2°C.

The scale of the problem has been recognised. Now, a deal that matches it needs to be struck in Durban, South Africa, for COP17 at the end of 2011.



TckTckTck partners, Greenpeace and 350.org, staged a haunting underwater tableau in Cancún where 'The Silent Evolution' - an underwater art installation comprising 400 life-sized statues, by artist Jason deCaires Taylor - delivered the climate change message that real people can't live under water.

greenpeace victories

the finnish pine forests

The Finnish pine forests north of the polar circle form the northernmost forest ecosystem on the Earth. Europe's hunger for paper has decreased their size continuously over the last decades, up to a point where only a tiny fraction remain in a natural state in some parts of Northern Lapland.

Some of the best parts of this true natural wonder were being threatened big time by forestry operations – along with every winter's snow and ice came the logging trucks, and more of the forest's unique pine trees ended up as weekly magazines on the coffee tables of Europe.



Oliver Salge, now head of Greenpeace Germany's forest and oceans campaign, leads us through the story of the long struggle to save the Finnish forests from destruction...



The golden light of the setting sun hits the top of the pine trees and makes the whole atmosphere of the forest a magical one. The thick old trees show all its patina during summertime, when the sun sets only for an hour. Complete darkness is absent this time of the year. I am with Matti, my colleague from Helsinki, in one of the most magnificent old growth forests in northern Lapland, south west of the large Lake Inari. We are here to join some of our friends and partners from the Saami community, to celebrate the protection of the large forests that we have achieved together – from Day 1 until the final steps to victory – and to share stories about how it all happened – stories about a 10-year long campaign to protect this unique old growth forest.

Apart from the dangers it posed to a large number of threatened and red-listed species who still find a habitat up here in the north, continuing forest clearance was particularly negative for the indigenous Saami people, who live in northern Finland and have practised reindeer husbandry for hundred of years. Every time the logging company took a piece of the valuable old growth forest it decreased the area in which the Saami's reindeer could find their winter food. The reindeer are dependent on tree-hanging lichens, particularly towards the end of winter, in February and March. The lichen only grows on older trees, and if these are taken, less and less lichen is left for the reindeer.

This system of forest destruction in Northern Finland was neither accepted by the Saami people nor by Finnish environmentalists, but the power of the state-owned forest enterprise Metsähallitus was too strong to challenge.

In early 2001, Matti and I looked at the facts and figures and we decided we had to at least try to challenge this ongoing nightmare. Greenpeace has just reopened its office in Helsinki and Matti was hired to take on the challenge. I had just started with Greenpeace Germany as forest campaigner. He contacted me after studying the statistics of Finnish paper exports and realising that the bulk of the pulp and paper produced in Finland made its way to Germany and other European destinations; this was most likely also true for the pines from the old growth forests. At this time I was unaware that the campaign to save Finland's old growth forests would engage my time for nearly a decade – I've now been to Finland so many times, I've lost count.





I started contacting the leading magazine and newsprint publishers in Germany, telling them that one of their suppliers was involved in ancient forest destruction, and arguing that the trees were most probably ending up in their own paper supply chains. I explained all the negative impacts of biodiversity and people, and how Greenpeace was demanding change, but I knew that letters and telephone calls weren't going to be enough to change the world this time.

So I and other Greenpeace activists jumped into action and into our Zodiac inflatables to protest against the destruction of the old growth; not in Finland - where Greenpeace and others have demonstrated numerous times for the protection of the woods - but this time in the market place! The Northern German port of Luebeck, where paper arrived from Scandinavia to be distributed to many European countries, was the place to be, and one day in April 2001 Greenpeace activist climbed a bridge and unfurled a banner; the ship from Finland carrying the paper couldn't pass the bridge as the banner and the climbers were in its way. To our surprise, the police closed the bridge

due to our protest, shutting off one of Luebeck's arterial roads and bringing traffic to a standstill. Thanks to the police action, our protest gained even more attention and Greenpeace became prime time news.

Greenpeace has had a good history with some German publishers - at this time, we'd previously been in dialogue with them about forest destruction in Western Canada in the mid 90s, and it was only a matter of months after this first action in Germany before Matti and I were hosting a whole delegation of publishers in the woods of Northern Finland. Our idea was simple - if the managers of these publication companies saw with their own eyes what was going on in the woods, it would change their attitudes to forest protection forever - and simple as it was, it worked. There we were, in the middle of beautiful old growth forest with a handful of managers and a world-leading scientist to explain why these few remaining old growth forests were important to sustain biodiversity, particularly in times of climate change. Also with us was the president of the largest Finnish nature conservation association, sharing its own views on forestry and demanding change. The managers went away, and for the first

Using maps changed view on forestry

To document the crisis of the old growth forests, Greenpeace - together with other environmentalists - started to draw up maps in 2002, covering all remaining old growth forest in Northern Finland, using scientific data from the environmental protection administration, responsible for protecting nature as well as its own data from field research. Unfortunately, this administration could not enforce all of its own recommendations, as the forest administration mostly voted against further forest protection and the logging continued.

Greenpeace sent the forest maps to publishers in Germany who were buying paper from Finland, and asked them to take urgent action and stop sourcing from the mapped areas. The first set of maps came in two large folders, and were literally drawn with a pen. They contained over 400 old growth areas with names, locations and the sources of public scientific data recommending their protection. The maps became known as the Greenpeace maps, as they set the bar much higher than the so-far unnoticed scientific advice given by the state environmental bodies. Our maps landed up on the desks of the paper buyers - and this made all the difference.



time asked their suppliers how logging operations in these pristine places - where trees were up to 700 years old - could be supported. A few months after the field trip, all logging plans for the areas we had been visiting with publishers were put on hold. Two years later, these and a few other old growth forest areas were protected.

However, logging in many other old growth forests continued, particularly in the Saami homeland, Inari. How were we to stop this and pave the way forward, towards a solution in this long-running forest conflict? I was inspired by a tree-top protest that Greenpeace activists had once carried out in Tasmania. They had established a type of platform 70 metres high in the gigantic Eucalyptus trees of the pristine Styx Valley, which enabled them to stay there for several weeks successfully protesting the logging of the trees. I thought - that's

what we have to do in Lapland, too! The trees might not be so tall, but there would be other challenges - such as the minus 35 degrees we'd need to deal with during the Finnish winter! Combining the lessons learned from the Styx Valley tree protest with the experience of Greenpeace camps in the ice in Alaska, when we were protesting against BP's oil drilling a little later, lead us on to the establishment of a Forest Rescue Camp in Lapland. To find out what the Saami thought about our plans, Matti and I travelled to Inari and talked them over with the Saami who were standing up against the injustice of logging. Although the idea of a protest camp in the middle of the forest was a new one for them, they immediately understood the value of such a protest and agreed to help us manage the logistics around it.

The day the logging started, early in March 2005, I arrived in Inari, together with some 50 other Greenpeace activists from many different countries, and established the Forest Rescue Station, consisting of two 20 foot containers and a traditional red tipi. A windmill supplied some energy and our flag fluttered from a huge tower. We had come to stay!

This was also clearly understood by the paper producer Stora Enso, who sourced the timber to make its paper from these forests. The day after our arrival the logging stopped - Greenpeace forest campaigners across Europe had contacted leading magazine and newsprint publishers, calling on them to speak to their suppliers and demand a halt to the logging. Days later, our presence and even more telephone calls convinced the supply chain manager of Stora Enso to meet with us and some Saami people in the middle of the forest. After some hours talking to us, sitting in a traditional tipi, the manager said that his company would stop buying the timber from the forests that Greenpeace and the Saami indicated on the maps. A big first step, but not the solution saving the forests for now and future generations.

Matti and I were sceptical as to how long this logging moratorium would last. Our experience with the Finnish state enterprise Metsähallitus had taught us to be prepared. We organised a truckload full of branches and parts of trees from logging that had taken place previously. When logging started again the following winter, together with other Greenpeace-activists I arrived in front of the Finnish embassy in Berlin. We placed the branches and logs we had collected in Lapland in front of the embassy, and demanded an end to the logging. That same morning, the UN Human Rights Committee (UNHCR) ordered the Finnish government to stop the logging until a legal case against it had been properly dealt with (see side bar). I was aware of this, but the ambassador wasn't. As I was speaking with the ambassador, Matti was getting the first

media calls from Finnish journalists about the UN case. The story made its way back to the government. The letter from the UNHCR was now taken seriously. The Finnish cabinet met ad hoc about the issue and by the time I was on my way home again, I heard that the logging had been ordered to a halt. I knew that this UN-induced halt of logging could last for 10 years, so it was an exciting day for me, and a good day for the old growth! In August 2009, a contract between the reindeer herder Kalevi Paadar, two of his brothers and Metsähallitus was signed, ending the court case and protecting the old growth forests for 20 years.

Meanwhile, the conflict over the forests of the Saami homeland had been put on hold, *de facto*. But logging in the eighth largest old growth forest south of Saami area continued. We had been calling for the protection of this forest since 2001. I kept up my relationships with leading publishers and, each time that logging took place, I informed them and called for urgent action; shortly after information was made public to the paper buyers, logging was put on hold. But no final solution was reached.

This all changed when the new CEO of Stora Enso invited Greenpeace to talk at the shareholder meeting in Helsinki. Some activists had climbed the Stora Enso headquarters unfurling a protest banner right in front of his office windows, and this triggered the CEO's invitation. I'd talked to Stora Enso staff several times, which had never yielded any meaningful results, but I was more than willing to try again. A little later in 2009, Sini and Mads - two colleagues from Helsinki - and I, met with this new Stora Enso CEO to discuss how the forest conflict his company was involved in might be ended. Some months later a process designed to agree on areas of protection and areas open for forest management began. Greenpeace has been part of this process, which ended with a formal agreement about the protection of some 100,000 hectares of wilderness.

In December 2010, all the other Saami reindeer cooperatives signed contracts with Metsähallitus, protecting the forests for 20 years. After 10 years, the forest conflict - often called the war in the woods - officially came to an end.

Walking recently in the pine forest lit by the setting sun, seeing reindeer on the horizon and knowing that it was all protected forever now, neither Matti nor I could really find the right words to convey our emotions. So we just stayed silent and simply enjoyed it all.



Legal action is a strong tool

The Finnish constitution pays special attention to the livelihood of the indigenous Saami people - it states that logging should not endanger Saami peoples' traditional livelihood. Despite this plain language, logging continued and the state-owned company behind it simply claimed that it does not endanger Saami livelihood. No legal case had successfully challenged this. One case opened in 1993 and progressed to the UN Human Rights Committee. In 2005 it was declared that logging - if taken on a larger scale - may threaten the livelihood of the Saami, but no legal case was ever started taking logging on this larger scale.

This all changed when Kalevi Paadar, a Saami herder from Inari, joined by two of his brothers opened a court case against logging on the day it started in the old growth forest he and his reindeer herd needed to survive. The logging was a breach of human rights and Mr. Paadar called the court to rule on it. Knowing that the Finnish local court more often than not ruled in favour of the logging industry, Mr. Paadar's lawyer sent an application for action to end human rights violation to the UN Human Rights Committee.

The case was about the very same forest in which Greenpeace activists had stopped logging just a few months earlier by establishing a protest camp. The UNHCR called the Finnish government to refrain from any logging in the given forests until the case has been handled properly at court. The legal challenge Mr. Paadar and his brothers had started effectively stopped the logging from 2005 onwards, because it was clear that other Saami would open up similar legal cases if logging were to start in any other areas of old growth. In August 2009, Kalevi Paadar and the Finnish state-owned logging enterprise ended the case by signing a contract that protects the forest for 20 years.

greenpeace investigates the legacy of the deepwater horizon oil spill



Following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, Greenpeace sent the *Arctic Sunrise* to the Gulf of Mexico; we wanted to learn the truth about long-term impacts to the environment, rather than merely accept what was being spun by BP or the US government.

On board was **Dave Walsh**, who writes about Greenpeace's work in the region, and reveals how the 'official' story just wasn't adding up...



Writing this story, eight months after the Deepwater Horizon disaster, and five months since the well was capped, the oil spill might seem like ancient history. After all, it's no longer dominating the New York Times front page or the BBC. But - just like the oil itself - the story is still out there. A quick search on Google news tells me that many victims of the spill are still seeking recompense, animal rehabilitation is ongoing and there are more calls for improvements to Gulf seafood testing procedures. It seems clear that while the world has moved on, the consequences of the oil spill will be felt for a long time, both by humans and by the Gulf environment they interact with every day.

Greenpeace teams had been in the Gulf since right after the spill, spending the summer bearing witness, investigating impacts, and taking media to the places others daren't reach. One of those people was my colleague Joao Talocchi, who was pictured in the last *Quarterly* with his gloved hands covered in the crude oil that clogged the marshes of Louisiana. The image, by photographer Chuck Cook, was just one of the countless items of visual evidence depicting the extent and effects of the oil that spewed from Macando wellhead, following the explosion on 20 April. Aerial images showed abstracted clogged coastlines, while down below, footage of oil-spattered, white-suited cleaning teams competed with heartbreaking images of oiled pelicans.





This oil could be seen and touched, and was so TV-and-photo-friendly that it was no surprise that both BP and the US government wanted to control access to the affected areas, or that they strove to make the whole thing just 'go away'. It was this desperation that seems to have led to some seriously wishful thinking about the oil that they could not see: in early August, the US government claimed that 74% of the oil was quite simply 'gone'. According to the White House on 4 August, the vast majority of the oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill had either evaporated or been burned, skimmed, recovered from the wellhead or dispersed. Some 26%, it was said, had become 'light sheen or weathered tarballs', and had washed ashore where 'it may have been collected, or is buried in sand and sediments at the sea bottom'.

The US science community reacted with bemused and exasperated scepticism. A University of Georgia team issued a statement estimating that *some 80% of the oil was still in the Gulf*. Later, during the Oil Spill Commission hearings in Washington DC, biological oceanographer Dr. Ian MacDonald said that, while some of the oil had been dispersed, evaporated, burned or skimmed, "the remaining fraction - over 50% of the total discharge - is a highly durable material that resists further dissipation". Dr. MacDonald suggested that at least 2.5 million barrels remained in the Gulf's ecosystem, and that "much of it is now buried in marine and coastal sediments". He added there was scant evidence for bacterial degradation of this material prior to burial.

Note that this wasn't an argument over the fine details. It was a massive and fundamental disagreement about what was really going in the Gulf. The US government was saying that 74% of the oil was gone, the scientific community was saying that 50%-80% was *not gone*. They couldn't all be right.

Let's break this down a bit. A pretty unimaginable 4.9 million barrels of crude oil, (about 750 million litres) were released into the Gulf following the explosion on 20 April. Of this, it seems that some 900,000 barrels were pumped into tankers by BP. Another 400,000 were burned or skimmed, leaving somewhere between three and four million barrels of oil unaccounted for in the Gulf.

It's important to remember that the Gulf disaster wasn't really an 'oil spill' in the usual sense; it was a release of oil from hundreds of metres below the Gulf's surface. Left to its own devices, a proportion of the oil might have made it to the surface (some did), while the rest may, for instance, have hung in a suspended cloud before gradually degrading into something that we would not immediately recognise as oil.

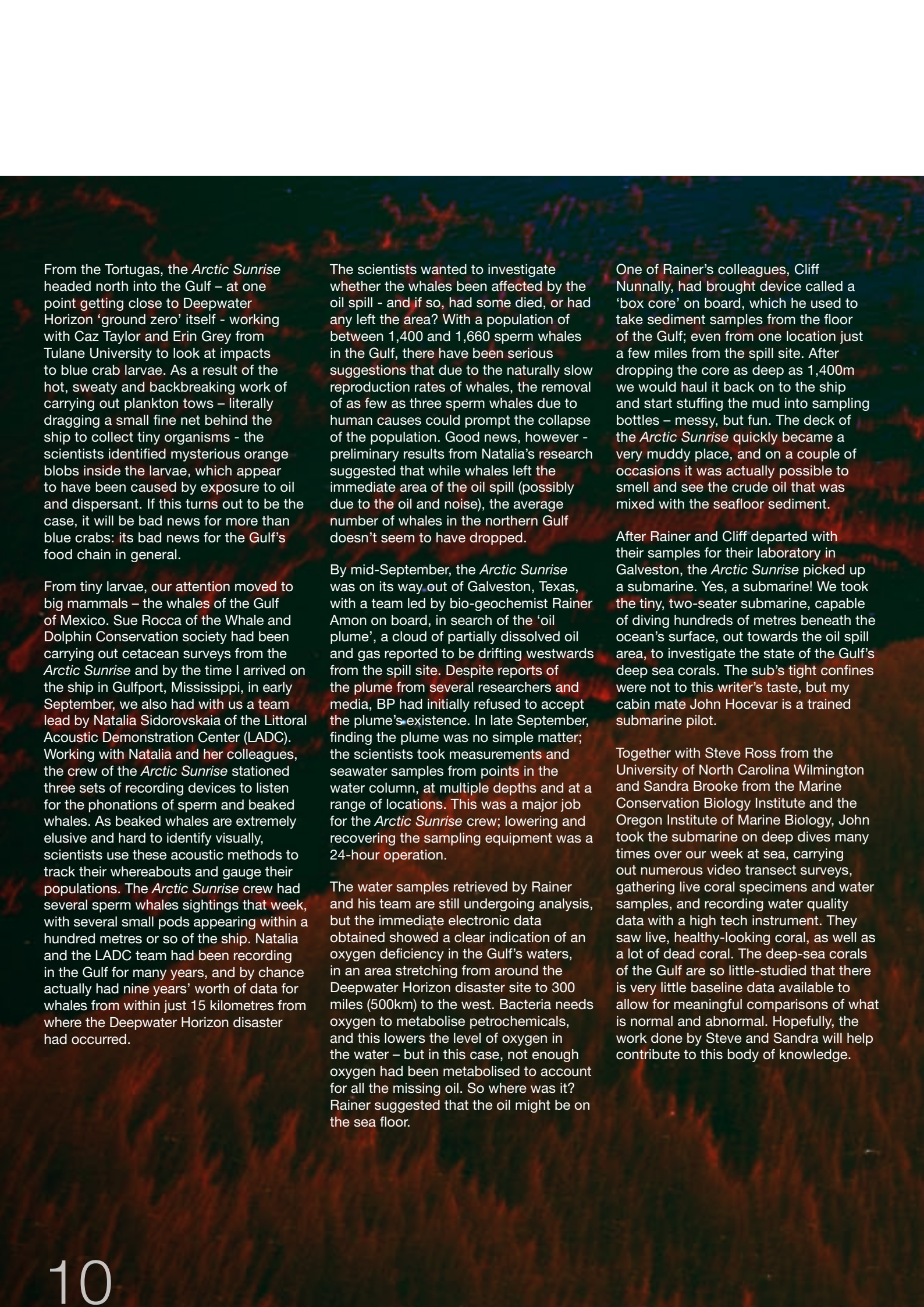
It was clear, however, that BP wanted to the oil to 'go away' as quickly as possible, regardless of any long-term effects.



The company proceeded to use the controversial dispersant Corexit at the release point itself - despite orders to desist from the US Environmental Protection Agency - and despite the fact that Corexit had never before been used to disperse oil at such a depth.

A couple of days after the US government made its '74% gone' claim, our ship the *Arctic Sunrise* steamed into the port of St. Petersburg, near Tampa, on the east coast of the Florida 'panhandle'. In the course of three months, the little green icebreaker would provide a platform for several teams of independent scientists who, like us, wanted to get to the bottom of what was really going on in the Gulf of Mexico.

Captained by Pete Willcox, the *Arctic Sunrise* headed to the reefs of the Dry Tortugas, via Key West, at the southern end of the Florida Keys - the oil sheen had reached this far south. Scientists Jose Lopez and Chuck Messing, from Nova Southeastern University, joined Greenpeace USA oceans campaign director and marine biologist John Hocevar to investigate the health of the sponges. Sponges soak up all that passes by, filtering thousands of litres of seawater a day, and this makes them crucial bioindicators of the present and future health of a reef. Fortunately, large quantities of oil have not yet made it to this region, but with studies like these it is possible to assess the full range of potential impacts of even low concentrations of oil. Although the divers saw no visible signs of oil, time will tell whether the overall ecosystem will be affected by any long-term 'sub-lethal' impacts from the oil spill.



From the Tortugas, the *Arctic Sunrise* headed north into the Gulf – at one point getting close to Deepwater Horizon ‘ground zero’ itself – working with Caz Taylor and Erin Grey from Tulane University to look at impacts to blue crab larvae. As a result of the hot, sweaty and backbreaking work of carrying out plankton tows – literally dragging a small fine net behind the ship to collect tiny organisms – the scientists identified mysterious orange blobs inside the larvae, which appear to have been caused by exposure to oil and dispersant. If this turns out to be the case, it will be bad news for more than blue crabs: it’s bad news for the Gulf’s food chain in general.

From tiny larvae, our attention moved to big mammals – the whales of the Gulf of Mexico. Sue Rocca of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation society had been carrying out cetacean surveys from the *Arctic Sunrise* and by the time I arrived on the ship in Gulfport, Mississippi, in early September, we also had with us a team lead by Natalia Sidorovskaia of the Littoral Acoustic Demonstration Center (LADC). Working with Natalia and her colleagues, the crew of the *Arctic Sunrise* stationed three sets of recording devices to listen for the phonations of sperm and beaked whales. As beaked whales are extremely elusive and hard to identify visually, scientists use these acoustic methods to track their whereabouts and gauge their populations. The *Arctic Sunrise* crew had several sperm whale sightings that week, with several small pods appearing within a hundred metres or so of the ship. Natalia and the LADC team had been recording in the Gulf for many years, and by chance actually had nine years’ worth of data for whales from within just 15 kilometres from where the Deepwater Horizon disaster had occurred.

The scientists wanted to investigate whether the whales been affected by the oil spill – and if so, had some died, or had any left the area? With a population of between 1,400 and 1,660 sperm whales in the Gulf, there have been serious suggestions that due to the naturally slow reproduction rates of whales, the removal of as few as three sperm whales due to human causes could prompt the collapse of the population. Good news, however – preliminary results from Natalia’s research suggested that while whales left the immediate area of the oil spill (possibly due to the oil and noise), the average number of whales in the northern Gulf doesn’t seem to have dropped.

By mid-September, the *Arctic Sunrise* was on its way out of Galveston, Texas, with a team led by bio-geochemist Rainer Amon on board, in search of the ‘oil plume’, a cloud of partially dissolved oil and gas reported to be drifting westwards from the spill site. Despite reports of the plume from several researchers and media, BP had initially refused to accept the plume’s existence. In late September, finding the plume was no simple matter; the scientists took measurements and seawater samples from points in the water column, at multiple depths and at a range of locations. This was a major job for the *Arctic Sunrise* crew; lowering and recovering the sampling equipment was a 24-hour operation.

The water samples retrieved by Rainer and his team are still undergoing analysis, but the immediate electronic data obtained showed a clear indication of an oxygen deficiency in the Gulf’s waters, in an area stretching from around the Deepwater Horizon disaster site to 300 miles (500km) to the west. Bacteria needs oxygen to metabolise petrochemicals, and this lowers the level of oxygen in the water – but in this case, not enough oxygen had been metabolised to account for all the missing oil. So where was it? Rainer suggested that the oil might be on the sea floor.

One of Rainer’s colleagues, Cliff Nunnally, had brought device called a ‘box core’ on board, which he used to take sediment samples from the floor of the Gulf; even from one location just a few miles from the spill site. After dropping the core as deep as 1,400m we would haul it back on to the ship and start stuffing the mud into sampling bottles – messy, but fun. The deck of the *Arctic Sunrise* quickly became a very muddy place, and on a couple of occasions it was actually possible to smell and see the crude oil that was mixed with the seafloor sediment.

After Rainer and Cliff departed with their samples for their laboratory in Galveston, the *Arctic Sunrise* picked up a submarine. Yes, a submarine! We took the tiny, two-seater submarine, capable of diving hundreds of metres beneath the ocean’s surface, out towards the oil spill area, to investigate the state of the Gulf’s deep sea corals. The sub’s tight confines were not to this writer’s taste, but my cabin mate John Hocevar is a trained submarine pilot.

Together with Steve Ross from the University of North Carolina Wilmington and Sandra Brooke from the Marine Conservation Biology Institute and the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, John took the submarine on deep dives many times over our week at sea, carrying out numerous video transect surveys, gathering live coral specimens and water samples, and recording water quality data with a high tech instrument. They saw live, healthy-looking coral, as well as a lot of dead coral. The deep-sea corals of the Gulf are so little-studied that there is very little baseline data available to allow for meaningful comparisons of what is normal and abnormal. Hopefully, the work done by Steve and Sandra will help contribute to this body of knowledge.



As the one year anniversary of the disaster grows closer, the research to understand the impacts of the oil on the Gulf environment will continue in laboratories across the US. In December 2010, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that scientists from the University of South Florida had discovered a thick residue of oil lying on the Gulf floor, and many dead worms and other organisms. Their tests showed identical chemical signals with the oil from BP's Macando well.

Despite what BP and the US government would like us to think, the Gulf of Mexico oil spill's impact is not 'over'. Scientists know better, fishermen know better, the people of the Gulf know better - and certainly, the clean-up crews endlessly picking up tar balls know better.

It's time to make the switch to an Energy [R]evolution, instead of allowing our oil addiction continue to foul our environment.



Birds and other wildlife are surrounded by oil containment booms on Breton Sound Island, south of Louisiana, where oil leaking from the Deepwater Horizon wellhead continued to spread.



greenpeace in action going beyond oil

If Britain's Cairn Energy could be stopped - even for a short time - in meeting its tight deadline to complete a search for oil off the coast of Greenland, winter ice conditions would force it to abandon the search until next year. Therefore, in late August, Greenpeace set out to do just that.



Greenpeace activist and journalist **Ben Stewart** tells us how to bring an oil drilling operation grinding to a halt...



They don't teach you this at press officer school.

I was zipped up to the eyeballs in a marine survival suit with a life-jacket the size of a fridge-freezer attached to my chest and flippers on my feet so long they extended from my feet to the somewhere beyond the horizon. We were perched on the edge of an inflatable speedboat and up ahead was a 90,000 tonne, 228 metre long oil drilling ship, bearing down on us in the middle of the North Sea.

I asked an old-timer who's sailed on Greenpeace ships for 20 years if the plan was safe. Sure, he said, but then he did something with his mouth – not a smile exactly, but the hint of something else, an expression that conveyed sympathy – that made me wonder if all was well. So I asked the First Mate if this was safe, but his answer ("I guess we'll find out soon, won't we") wasn't the kind of assurance I was looking for.

The plan, by the way, was to dive into the water and swim towards the bow of the drill ship – to put our bodies in its way – in an effort to make it stop before it could reach the Lagavulin oil field north of Shetland. Yep, that was the plan, that was what was meant to happen. But the image shimmering before my eyes and those of my fellow swimmer James was of us sliding down the side of the ship before being caught on the propeller then being dunked and surfaced and dunked and surfaced for the next 200 nautical miles like socks in a washing machine.

Mannas and Jono, the other two swimmers, had a more confident steely look in their eyes. Did they know something we didn't? Suddenly there was no more time to ponder any of this as Lewis lifted my legs and shouted something that sounded like 'good luck' (though it might have been another expression entirely) and there I was, adrift in the ocean with a ship the size of a skyscraper laid on its side heading slowly, inexorably, towards me. What was the plan again? Oh yes, to swim towards it. *Towards* it? Ignoring the several hundred thousand years of evolution that went into developing the human 'fight or flight' response, I kicked my legs and paddled my arms and headed for the huge bow.

A minute later it was towering over me, like in those Godzilla films where the monster's shadow creeps over the cowering weedy guy standing in the street, and then the bow wave slammed into my preposterous life-jacket and I was surfing in open ocean then tossing and turning in foam as I slid down the starboard side of the ship. Phil from the *Esperanza* had bet me a beer I wouldn't be able to touch the ship so I kicked hard and lurched forward and slapped the side of the beast and... and it stopped. The *Stena Carron* drill ship just stopped dead in the ocean and sat there.

Hmmmm... What to do? I paddled along the side towards the bow then came out in front of the stationary behemoth and tentatively held out my arm like a traffic cop and said, "Er... stop?"

The other three had made their way round to the bow and were also bobbing about with rather perplexed expressions on their faces. I mean, the ship had just stopped. It was meant to be heading up to the oil field to drill a deep-water well for Chevron, despite the lessons of the BP disaster and the huge climate impact of burning oil. And now it wasn't going anywhere, as long as we kept it penned in by swimming under the bow, out here in the middle of the ocean.

The *Carron* is a remarkable piece of engineering. It has eight thruster engines that can keep it in position to within one metre of a GPS coordinate even during a force 10 gale, allowing it to drill in deepwater and lead the charge for fossil fuels in ever more dangerous and difficult to reach locations. Five weeks earlier we'd come across its sister ship – the *Stena Forth* – 100 miles off the west coast of Greenland. The *Forth* was one of two rigs chartered by Cairn Energy to drill for oil in the pristine waters of the Arctic circle. Our ship the *Esperanza* had left London in early August promising to confront the oil industry and its reckless pursuit of the last drops of oil in the months after the Gulf of Mexico spill, and our first target was the Cairn Operation in the freezing waters of Disko Island.

Our crew of 35 knew, as we sailed up the coast of Greenland, that the aim of our mission was to stop Cairn drilling by putting direct action climbers onto one of their rigs. With the mountainous coast puncturing the sky off our starboard side and our climbers training in the helicopter hanger to avoid the prying eyes of the Danish navy vessels that patrol Greenlandic waters, we worked on assembling information about the Cairn operation.

Their Arctic drilling programme was limited to a 'summer window' between July and November, during which time they were drilling two exploratory wells in the hope of striking the black stuff and sparking an Arctic oil rush. They were in a race against time to finish their operation before the sea-ice became too thick to allow vessels to operate and for relief wells to be drilled effectively in the event of a spill. We found out that Cairn was refusing to release a comprehensive spill response plan, and that it had just 14 vessels in the Greenland area capable of dealing with a spill (BP's response in the Gulf of Mexico involved over 6,500 vessels). The company was using 'ice management' techniques to tow icebergs out of the rig's path or use water cannons to divert them, while the area in which the rigs were situated was known locally as 'iceberg alley' and was home to 80% to 90% of the world's narwhals. The region was also home to blue whales, polar bears, seals, sharks, cormorants, kittiwakes and numerous other migratory birds.



We have to go beyond oil and invest in the clean alternatives that don't threaten fragile eco-systems with catastrophic spills and don't interfere with the delicate climate system on which we all rely.

When we arrived at the Stena Don oil rig we found a welcoming party waiting for us. A huge Danish warship was protecting the rig, while inflatable speedboats circled it holding numerous black clad commandos. It was flattering that the presence of a Greenpeace protest ship should cause them to deploy an armada, but it was also a testament to the power of the oil industry to call on governments to give them cover for their reckless activities.

As a direct action group Greenpeace was determined to step in where political leaders had failed and shut down the Arctic deepwater drilling operation for as long as we could. We have to go beyond oil and invest in the clean alternatives that don't threaten fragile eco-systems with catastrophic spills and don't interfere with the delicate climate system on which we all rely. But with a military response blocking our path, it was going to be hard getting onto the rig. For nine days we circled the Stena Don or made the short 20 mile journey to the *Stena Forth*, all the time shadowed by the warship and its contingent of commandos that could be launched in seconds to stop us. But all the time we laid our plans, and on the tenth morning under cover of darkness and working to an ingenious plan developed by our logistics experts, we made our move.

I can't tell you too much about how it was done, but safe to say the First Mate and boson were heroic with their thumbs and we had our inflatables launched and steaming into the 500m exclusion zone surrounding the Stena Don before the commandos even knew what was happening. And having licked them for speed our climbers were up on the underside of the rig and forcing its operations to shut down as the sun came up and the warship floundered impotently.

Jens, Mateo, Sim and Timo were soon hung in tents suspended by ropes from the rig. Given that operations were suspended on the nearby *Stena Forth* for as long as our action went on, that meant every hour our climbers withstood the Arctic conditions was another hour that deepwater drilling was suspended in the Arctic. It was only after 40 hours, as a vicious storm whipped up and the waves below them lurched and swelled and spewed up great frothing showers of freezing sea water, that they were forced down from their perch and the drill bits turned again. Our climbers were arrested and helicoptered to shore where they were processed by the courts and deported. Meanwhile the *Esperanza* headed south and our date with the *Stena Carron* in the North Sea.

The *Carron* was scheduled to drill a well in 1500m of water north of Shetland, and our crew was going to try to stop it. Greenpeace supporters had written to the British government demanding that they halt deepwater drilling, but with little sign of action from the politicians, the *Esperanza* set to devising a plan for how to stop the *Carron* leaving port. We had a two week transit to hunker down and plot and practice, and by the time the huge drill ship appeared over the horizon anchored outside the Scottish port of Lerwick, we knew what we had to do. The *Carron* was due to leave any moment for the oil field so we launched inflatables and put two climbers on the anchor chain, meaning Chevron couldn't up anchor and leave. Our team – Victor and Anais – were vulnerable to the elements but we wanted to stop Chevron for longer than 40 hours this time. Fortunately we had a secret up our sleeves. The Pod.

The Yellow Pod has since become a celebrity in its own right. A two-metre diameter purpose-built reinforced survival pod that can hang off a structure and protect the activists occupying it from anything short of a hurricane. As we towed it, bobbing and shimmering and the colour of bananas, across the sea towards the anchor chain we listened in to the VHF radio and heard a voice on the bridge of the drill ship. "Yes, Greenpeace inflatables approaching, a number of activists and... er... I really don't know what *that* is."



Well, that was the pod, and after it was raised and secured to the chain it allowed us to keep the ship right there for three days. Unfortunately the British legal system is weighted heavily in favour of corporations and by the Friday Chevron had secured an injunction from an Edinburgh court, meaning that if we left the pod in place we'd have to pay huge sums of our supporters' money straight to Chevron. That wasn't a particularly appealing prospect, and so we had to accept that the pod would come down and the ship would soon be free to steam towards to the oil field. But we could deal with that, because we had another plan.

Which brings me to the moment I was sitting on the edge of the inflatable with the lifejacket the size of a fridge, asking anyone within earshot if this was really safe.

Five hours later and the *Stena Carron* was still stationary in the middle of the North Sea, and my legs (and my fellow swimmer James') were beginning to really hurt. Soon we were relieved by two crew mates, and four hours later they were relieved by two more. Everybody was volunteering to do a spell in the water, swimming in front of the ship in open ocean to keep it there, so a rota went up in the mess where we ate. All through the night and the following day and the next night members of the crew – from the engineers to the mates to the deck crew – were signing up.

It was one of those Greenpeace moments where you look around and realise that you're surrounded by the most remarkable people – normal people who wanted to get involved and ended up stopping a 90,000 tonne monster in its tracks, armed with nothing more than an oversized lifejacket and the courage of their convictions.

The Chevron lawyers weren't taking any chances this time and by the third day they were in court again, asking the judge to ban us from doing *anything* that would disrupt their plans to drill for oil in deep water. Again we had to judge whether we could justify handing over huge sums to Chevron (that ship costs hundreds of thousands of dollars a day to operate) or whether we took the battle straight to the heart of government. And so we pulled out our swimmers and focused on getting emails and letters into the minister responsible for licensing deepwater drilling off the UK. Before long 20,000 emails had flooded the British government from a public outraged at plans to open up the seabed to deep water drilling.

Meanwhile the *Esperanza* was headed home, to Amsterdam. After eight weeks at sea we were excited at the prospect of seeing land and our families and friends and all the things we'd missed. But we were equally determined to go back as soon as we can to challenge a reckless industry that's drilling for the last drops of oil in the face of climate change and common sense.

Despite the overwhelming evidence that Big Oil's reckless pursuit of the last remaining oil reserves (and ever-more exorbitant profits) is disastrous for the planet, governments of the world are still greenlighting dangerous deepwater drilling projects. There is real danger that the *Stena Don* could spark an Arctic oil rush, which would pose a huge threat to the climate and put the fragile Arctic environment at risk. So, for nearly two days, Greenpeace activists prevented this dangerous drilling operation from proceeding to threaten any more marine life and coastal ecosystems with catastrophic oil spills.

This is as much a moral issue as an environmental issue. We don't fully understand the long-term effects of oil spills like the BP Deepwater Disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. We need independent science to find out what those will be. All we do know for certain is that the oil and its impacts will persist for decades. Surely we can all agree that we owe our children a healthy planet to live on? And unfortunately, as is now all-too clear, expanding offshore drilling operations is incompatible with keeping our planet healthy enough to support future generations. That's why we're not only working to stop more dangerous drilling, we're also seeking to get to the truth about the impacts of oil spills.

We're not just against oil, we're for clean, sustainable energy. Expanding our offshore drilling operations is not only dangerous, but unnecessary. We can get to 80% renewable energy globally by 2050, and we'd be creating 12 million jobs by 2030 in the process.

A clean energy revolution would not only help stop global warming and get our ailing economy back on track, but it is also the only 100% fail-safe method for preventing oil spills. That's because the only way to stop oil spills is to leave the oil in the ground (or hundreds of feet under the sea, as the case may be). We can't do that until we go beyond oil and other fossil fuels as our primary energy sources.

defending our oceans

whaling, human rights and the japanese media

After yet another disappointing outcome at this year's International Whaling Commission (IWC) meeting in Agadir, Morocco, and Japan's whaling fleet once again setting off for the Southern Ocean in November, one could be excused for thinking that another year has passed without any real whale-saving progress.



Greenpeace International's Greg McNevin explains why, thankfully, this is not the case...

There were a number of positive developments in 2010 on the whaling issue, both behind the scenes and in the public eye. Perhaps the most important of these was the very visible seismic shift that occurred in the Japanese media as the Tokyo Two trial came to a close. For the first time in Japan a real, progressive discussion about whaling and the merit of Japan's so-called 'scientific' programme has begun.

This may not sound particularly earth-shattering, but the Japanese media has traditionally only reported a very one-sided version of the issue, so the fact that a more balanced, and at times critical discussion of the programme is underway bodes well for the future. Whaling will only be ended inside Japan, by the Japanese people, and for that to happen real discussion is a necessary, and significant step forward.

The IWC may have ended in a very public stalemate, but the media coverage surrounding it tells a different story – particularly in Japan. Greenpeace's work with *The Sunday Times*, *The Guardian* and *BBC World* ensured that the vote-buying scandal broken by *The Times* dogged the Japanese delegation throughout the conference. Interviews with a whistleblower directly involved in the scandal gave the story further weight, and with governmental corruption being a hot-button issue, this gave Japanese journalists cause to look more closely at the whaling industry.

At the same time, the trial of our anti-whaling activists Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki edged closer to verdict. Much evidence of corruption in the whaling industry had already been exposed, but as the trial closed DNA evidence proved one witness, key to the prosecution's case, to be lying. Other witnesses expected to support the official version of events had already severely contradicted themselves, each other, police statements and the official story.

The prosecution's case was obviously wobbly, so when Dirk Voorhoof, a respected international human rights expert, gave evidence the press appeared to take a fresh view of the both the Tokyo Two trial and the whaling issue, and it was not long until we started seeing a change in reporting happen.

Of course, this did not happen due to a collective moment of clarity in the Japanese press corps. It took a lot of work to dispel the notion that Greenpeace was an enemy of Japan and to convince journalists that Junichi and Toru should not be flatly dismissed as criminals, but viewed as environmental and social activists whose human rights were being trampled while they tried to stand up for their actions in court.

There is a saying in Japan: "The nail that sticks out will be hammered back in". This was very apparent in the Japanese media's appraisal of Junichi and Toru's actions. The media – and by extension the Japanese public – automatically assumed that Junichi and Toru 'stole' the box of whale meat they used to prove the allegations of corruption, and this 'theft' overrode their good intentions and the far larger crime they exposed. They had committed serious crimes in that they operated outside the social order, and embarrassed the authorities, so what they had to say was irrelevant.

This perception persisted for the majority of the trial, and the media did not explore any other side to the issue. Our first press conference in 2009 for example, drew just one question from the attending media: "When is then next trial day?" This question was repeated in solitude at virtually every press conference in 2009, and when articles on the trial did appear in the press, the negative perception of Junichi and Toru's actions continued to flavour the tone of the sparse reports.

That is until the trial verdict loomed. As the days ticked down to the Tokyo Two judgement we saw a clear shift in the way the media wrote about the case, using the terms 'embezzlement' and 'freedom of expression', and giving more column space to discussion of the role of non-governmental organisations in Japan, bureaucratic corruption, and the use of taxpayer money to subsidise whaling.

Media also began asking for expert opinions from University professors regarding how freedom of expression should be applied to this case, and how it should be judged – a far cry from the resolutely negative reporting of the case earlier.

In the week before verdict this shift culminated in a series of positive commentary from influential news outlets including *Mainichi Shimbun*, *Asahi Shimbun*, and *Kyodo News* appropriately questioning the official story and calling for the case to be judged according to international human rights standards.

Unfortunately, this didn't happen given the final sentence of one year jail time, suspended, handed down by the court, with a verdict which summarily dismissed the human rights argument. However, the fact that the media is now informed and aware of the issue, and is in many cases supportive of our push for transparency in the whaling industry, as well as improvements in the authorities' approach to civil society and freedom of expression, marks a significant shift.

In some areas, such as ocean conservation and human rights, the reporting and public debate in Japan is not where it needs to be yet. However, thanks to the Tokyo Two trial the old whaling arguments based on emotion, culture, and decades of the Fisheries Agency of Japan's propaganda appear to finally be falling to the wayside, and the floodgates have in many ways finally opened for more in-depth, constructive reporting on conservation issues.

The pressure on Japan to end its whaling programme is growing every day, and the authorities' ability to cover up the truth at home is at an end. From here on in, every journalist questioning the legitimacy of the commercial whaling industry and every citizen saying "not in my name, and not with my tax money" ensures that IWC stalemate or no, we will get closer to an end to Japanese whaling in the Southern Ocean, once and for all.



A message from Junichi

Hi Supporters,

I am very glad that I am able to communicate directly to you after the verdict on our trial. Toru and I had been facing up to a year and half in jail, but the District Court gave us a suspended sentence, and recognised the wrongdoing in the Japanese whaling programme regarding 'mishandling' of whale meat. This is truly a big success for the campaign, as it further damaged the reputation of the Japanese whaling programme.

Sadly, however, the court did not respect international human rights standards. And this is why Toru and I decided to appeal to the higher court demanding the court to respect the rights of NGOs and citizens to expose corruption. We want a strong civil society in Japan, where freedom of expression is respected. The case still goes on, and we are fully fighting for a better society and against the whaling programme by exposing the truth behind it.

Thank you for your support!

Junichi Sato.



Dirk Voorhoof is professor of media law at the University of Ghent and the University of Copenhagen. On 11 March 2010, he was heard as an expert witness by the Aomori District Court regarding the application of Art. 19 ICCPR in the Tokyo Two case.

Controversial conviction in Japan of two Greenpeace activists

In March this year I testified on international human rights law and freedom of expression in a landmark trial in Japan, where two members of Greenpeace were being prosecuted after exposing alleged corruption in the country's already controversial whaling programme.

In 2008, acting on whistleblower evidence, anti-whaling activists Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki uncovered illegal trade in whale meat in the course of an investigation into whaling. Crewmembers of the whaling ship *Nisshin Maru* were apparently embezzling and trading the best and priciest cuts of whale meat from the taxpayer-funded whaling programme.

Sato and Suzuki intercepted a box of whale meat, sent from the *Nisshin Maru*, in a storage depot in the port of Aomori. The two presented their findings at a press conference, delivered the box to the prosecutor's office in Tokyo and offered the judicial authorities their cooperation to further uncover the smuggling ring.

Instead of investigating the alleged embezzlement, the Public Prosecutor's investigation was dropped, and Junichi and Toru arrested.

Known as the Tokyo Two, Sato and Suzuki have now been convicted of theft and trespass, and handed a one year jail sentence, suspended for three years. Greenpeace has aptly described this as a wholly disproportionate and unjust result, and has pledged to appeal it.

The trial is a landmark in Japan due to the political character of the case and the controversial nature of what they exposed, but it is also important globally from a human rights perspective, as before the activists were even charged they were held for an arbitrarily long period of time, denied access to lawyers, were harshly interrogated, and were otherwise treated in a manner disproportionate to their alleged crimes.

The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention concluded on 1 September 2009 that the detention of Sato and Suzuki was unjustified and contrary to various articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, especially Article 19 of this Covenant guaranteeing the right to express, impart, receive and seek information. Japan is a party to this treaty.

The court's ruling that both Greenpeace employees are guilty of theft and trespass barely takes the context of the organised whale meat smuggling into consideration, and also fails to consider the human rights aspects relating to freedom of newsgathering.

Sato and Suzuki clearly had no intention to steal the whale meat, but rather to bring this form of fraud and the unlawful practices in the Japanese whaling programme under the attention of the public, in the general interest. The fact that they delivered the box with whale meat to the prosecutor's office on their own initiative, even before the 'theft' had been reported, was a clear indication that the act did not amount to theft – rather, it was the reporting of an offence, along with preliminary evidence. But this argument could not convince the court.

According to standards of international human rights law forms of peaceful protest by NGOs, investigative reporting, whistle-blowing and participation by NGOs in public debate on matters of interest for society should be guaranteed, respected and even supported by public authorities.

Activists like Sato and Suzuki are clearly not criminals, however, on many occasions, in many countries, governments, police forces, public prosecutors and domestic courts are exhibiting a tendency to react in a repressive manner against independent voices that are critical of government authorities or traditional powers in society.

Article 2 of the ICCPR obliges parties to it, such as Japan, to respect and ensure the human rights recognised in the Covenant. All branches of government, including the judiciary - and I would say: especially the judiciary - must adhere to the human rights recognised and protected by the ICCPR, such as the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds. By refusing to apply the international standards on freedom of expression in case of the Tokyo Two, the Aomori Court has neglected Japan's commitments under international human rights law, and has put Japan at risk of further criticism for its failure to respect its obligations under international human rights law.

It is important that debate on matters of public interest is a pluralistic one, and not dominated by the government or a powerful economic elite. A modern democracy needs input both from independent media and from civil society to keep an eye on policy and decision-making by the political powers. The media and NGOs play a vital role in pluralistic democracies as the vanguard against tyranny. There is a reason they are often referred to as 'watchdogs', and freedom of expression as it applies to these sentinels is afforded a very high level of protection.

The Tokyo Two case is about much more than just illegal whaling and embezzlement. It has grown into a landmark trial for freedom of expression, the right to gather news, whistle-blowing, freedom of information, the role of NGOs in public debate, the independence of the judiciary and the transparency of public policy in Japan. At heart, it is about the question whether or not Japan wishes to travel down the road towards a sustainable society and a transparent and pluralistic democracy. The District Court's verdict takes the country away from that path; it is up to the High Court to put it back on track.



For the text of the legal submission of Dirk Voorhoof in this case, see http://www.greenpeace.or.jp/press/releases_en/attached/20090323EvidenceVoorhoof.pdf

defending our oceans saving life on earth

Following the failure of the Copenhagen climate talks in 2009, many had said there was little hope for international environmental negotiations. Others looked to the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), taking place in October in Nagoya, Japan, to deliver hope and solutions for life on Earth. Greenpeace sent a small team to the CBD in Japan, to convince governments that the dire state of our environment requires ambitious solutions.

Greenpeace
International's
Steve Smith
reports back for
The Quarterly.



With the pending climate crisis looming large and the failure of the world's leaders to deliver any meaningful commitments to rescue the planet at last year's climate summit in Denmark, the question was raised on what the United Nations could achieve in 2010 - the 'International Year of Biodiversity'. Unfortunately, the UN's declaration didn't reach many of the people who actively destroy biodiversity: our ancient forests continue to be cut, our oceans continue to be plundered of fish, whales remain hunted and crops are being genetically modified. The list goes on.

The CBD was born out of the Earth Summit in Rio in June 1992, and is one of the most important multilateral environmental agreements that exist today. Currently nearly all of the world's countries are members, except the United States. The purpose of the Convention is to ensure the conservation of biodiversity - life on Earth - the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources.

Countries who have signed the Convention treaty meet every two years to look at new issues, review progress of previous agreements, and to develop new targets and workplans in order to address issues relating to biodiversity loss. This year, the 10th Conference of the Parties took place, with thousands of people from governments and academic and scientific organisations, as well as non-governmental organisations, indigenous peoples and local communities, gathered in Japan to decide on a number of key issues, including a new 10-year 'Strategic Plan' to save life on Earth as well as agree to a Protocol that would ensure the access and equitable sharing of genetic resources with indigenous peoples. Ahead of the Conference, Greenpeace campaigners around the world met with their governments' officials to brief them on the decisions needed to ensure a strong rescue plan for the planet. A small team also attended a preparatory meeting in Kenya in May 2010, where the agenda for the final negotiations in Japan were drafted.

Can
Be
Done

Save Life on Earth
CBDはやってくれる！
GREENPEACE




As part of our preparations for the CBD meeting in Japan, we released the report *Emergency Oceans Rescue Plan*, which highlighted the plight of our oceans. As we all know, our oceans are in serious crisis. In exchange for giving us oxygen, food and so much more, we are robbing our oceans of fish, choking them with pollution and warming them through climate change. We've been working for decades to protect these amazing places, campaigning for a global network of marine reserves - large ocean areas set aside from extractive activities - as a key solution to the oceans crisis. We are demanding that leaders create a marine reserves network that covers 40% of the world's oceans.

The new report outlined our vision for a healthy blue planet, and made specific recommendations to the world's governments on the areas that should be designated as marine reserves and on what political steps are required to achieve these designations.

The Greenpeace team hit the ground a few days in advance of the CBD, preparing documents and warming up to the news media in attendance. We were determined to push governments for three things:

- A strong CBD Strategic Plan that, by 2020, ends overfishing, eliminates subsidies for biodiversity-destroying industries and increases ten-fold the funding for biodiversity protection;
- A legally-binding Protocol on 'Access and Benefits Sharing', which would ensure indigenous communities maintain their rights and reap the benefits from the natural resources on their land and in their waters;
- More protected areas - on land and at sea.



As we arrived in Japan, we knew we had our work cut out for us - 193 countries, thousands of delegates, hundreds of journalists and a 10-day meeting all conspired against our committed team of 11 people. Our office in Japan had spent weeks preparing for the CBD delegates' arrivals to Japan. Having launched their own campaign to save the oceans, the Greenpeace Japan staff were eager to have their campaign's first major international moment take place in their own backyard. Much of the news media attending the CBD were Japanese-speaking, and as the host of the CBD, the Japanese government had a huge role in shaping the negotiations, so everything we said and did had to be tailored for a Japanese audience.

On the second day of the conference, we sent the message to delegates that the Nagoya meeting must create a plan to save life on Earth. We brought negotiators from all over the world, as well as journalists and members of the public, to the iconic Nagoya Castle, the major landmark in the city. Here, we organised a three-dimensional cloud projection; our message, in English and in Japanese, urging biodiversity protection and the creation of marine reserves. It was one of the very first times that Greenpeace has used this projection technology to convey a message - essentially, a machine produces a non-toxic cloud, on which a high-tech projector can display a message.

The CBD meeting itself was a seemingly endless string of meetings. Our small team on the ground in Nagoya was shadowing negotiators day and night, following every turn of negotiations and lobbying them to make the new CBD agreements as strong as possible. There were different topics being discussed at nearly every hour of the day: oceans conservation, forests protection, climate change, indigenous rights and the new

CBD strategic plan were all happening at the same time. There were many moments throughout the conference where it seemed like the conference itself might end in deadlock.

I spent most of my time in Nagoya holed up in the international media centre. There were hundreds of journalists from all over the world covering the CBD and matching them up with the global network of Greenpeace experts was an exhilarating challenge. We were making sure that governments knew, through media reports, that Greenpeace was demanding the necessary steps toward a green and peaceful future: healthy oceans, intact forests and sustainable agriculture. Given time zone differences, the media centre at the Nagoya Convention Center was dealing with constant deadlines by the attending journalists. As a global organisation with experts following all of the CBD negotiations' tracks, we were able to field media requests and hold press conferences in over six languages.

After two weeks full of early mornings, late nights and intense arguments about the text of very long documents, the hope was for a new CBD plan that might put the world back on track to saving life on Earth rather than continuing on the post-Copenhagen road to nowhere. The talks went on until about two in the morning on the last day. In the end, the negotiators were able to produce the Aichi-Nagoya Protocol, which guarantees the rights of indigenous people to their resources. While the name might sound very unexciting and lead you to believe it's just another boring new environmental regulation, don't be fooled. This Protocol will help transform the way rich countries and in particular pharmaceutical companies deal with developing nations and their natural resources.

The CBD also made progress on 'protected areas', but not nearly enough. In the new 10-year plan, they stood still on ambition with regards to marine protected areas, agreeing to a target of 10% marine protected areas by 2020 - far from our call for 40%, but a small step forward. The nations in Nagoya agreed to develop a list of 'ecologically and biologically significant marine areas', and to hold regional workshops to identify key areas that need to be protected. Of course, countless scientific studies (including many by Greenpeace) have laid out what areas should be protected. Needless to say, more could have been done on these issues, but instead the CBD urged the United Nations General Assembly to get started on putting together an agreement that would ensure the protection high seas biodiversity.

Another key outcome of the Nagoya meeting was that governments finally took up the issue of how to finance biodiversity protection. As we all know, the costs of destroying our forests and plundering our oceans are far greater than the cost of protecting them. However, money does need to be put on the table, and in Nagoya, governments did commit to have a financial plan by the next CBD meeting in 2012, which will be hosted by India.

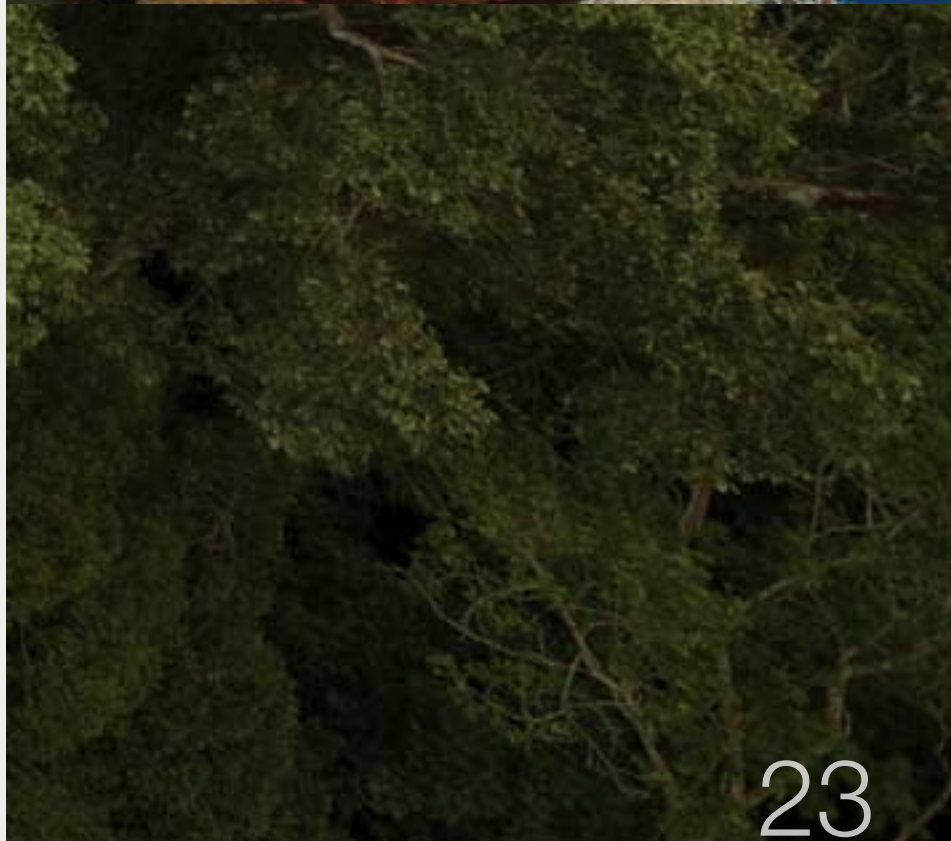
Thanks to you and the support you give to Greenpeace, we can continue to hold governments accountable and help ensure that bodies like the CBD listen to the concerns of all of us and not just lobbyists and corporate interests. We will continue our work to hold leaders accountable, take action and force the changes necessary for a healthy planet.



From Wakao, one of our campaigners in Greenpeace Japan

Greenpeace Japan launched its campaign to raise the public's awareness of the oceans crisis facing our oceans three months before the CBD meeting began in Nagoya. Many people started to understand how overfishing destroys our oceans through our campaign work here in Japan. We could not see a clear sign from the government of the biggest seafood consuming nation (per capita) about how it deal with the issue in the weeks before the biodiversity summit began. At first, I was uneasy and worried about my own country hosting the CBD-COP10 and chairing a huge meeting of nearly 200 nations in the International Year of Biodiversity. The Japanese government had sent clear negative signals throughout 2010, contributing to the collapse of numerous international negotiations about protecting marine biodiversity, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, which failed to rescue Atlantic bluefin tuna from extinction, as well as the International Whaling Commission.

Looking back at the CBD meeting in Nagoya, I'm proud that Greenpeace was such an active player in improving the negotiations. And, I'm relieved that the Japanese government showed relatively good leadership to achieve the global agreement of 'Aichi Target', the target for new schedule / plan until 2020, which includes protecting 10% of the global ocean. Although this figure is way behind of what Greenpeace has been proposing (a global network of marine reserves covering 40% of the world's oceans), it is a first step. Here in Japan, as the overfishing issue continues to become more widely known here in this seafood consuming society, including the strong statements made by governments at the CBD. Greenpeace was the most quoted NGO in the major national newspaper in Japan on the issue of marine biodiversity and overfishing during the CBD - a huge step forward for us and the cause of oceans protection. I hope that the Japanese government moves to put more effective long-term fisheries and oceans management regulations in place, and that fishing companies comply. We here at Greenpeace Japan will continue to remind the world - and the Japanese people - that we need sustainable fishing and marine reserves now if we want fish and healthy oceans for the future.



greenpeace around the world

10 years of greenpeace southeast asia

What a difference
a decade makes!
Greenpeace
Southeast Asia's
Executive Director
Von Hernandez looks
back over 10 years of
environmental activism
in Thailand, Indonesia
and the Philippines...
Greenpeace-style!



The year 2000 would go down in the history of the planet as the beginning of the decade when climate change and global warming became part of mainstream public discourse. It helps to remember that the decade was also marked by some of the warmest global temperatures ever recorded matched by ferocious and extreme weather related events in many parts of the world, some of which we have seen and experienced here in Southeast Asia.

The year 2000 will also be remembered as the year when Greenpeace formally decided to establish a regional office in Southeast Asia. Together with China and India, we saw Southeast Asia as one of the key battlegrounds where the fight to save the planet will ultimately be won or lost. The furious pursuit of mindless economic growth by Southeast Asian countries has resulted in some of the worst cases of environmental abuse and destruction we have ever seen in the last ten years: polluted cities, filthy factories, decimated forests, dead rivers, villages buried under water and mud, suffocating oil spills, and colossal mountains of waste.

It is clear that the environment has already become an urgent survival issue for our societies. Motivated by this insight, our decade's work in Southeast Asia offer strong and bigger reasons why we continue to be hopeful and optimistic about the future. In the last 10 years, Greenpeace has been exposing and standing up against environmental abuse, confronting those who are responsible and delivering the change required to make things better. Together with local communities and allies, we have won numerous battles against existing and proposed polluting facilities such as waste incinerators, coal and nuclear power plants.

We have championed and secured landmark policy changes and creative solutions in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, ecological waste management, sustainable agriculture and forest protection, while increasing transparency in the way public decisions are made about the environment.

More importantly, we are helping to catalyse change in the way people think about the environment. The reality of global warming has exposed the dismal failure of short-sighted development imperatives. Today, we are also witnessing the unprecedented and ever-accelerating empowerment of people via the internet and emerging social movements. This is the real revolution in thinking that is taking place and I have no doubt that this will prove decisive in overcoming public inertia over environmental issues, when the power of reason finally overcomes the forces of denial and ignorance.

As we celebrate 10 years of committed and inspired environmental campaigning in Southeast Asia, it is important to take stock of our failings and achievements and see how we can use the lessons from them to create even bigger victories in the coming years.

Greenpeace has been standing up and delivering for the environment in Southeast Asia in the last ten years, and we shall persist in doing so in the coming decades. You can be sure that Greenpeace will be there with you when the world finally secures the much needed breakthroughs needed for the climate, for the planet, and for our future.

Greenpeace Southeast Asia 2000 - 2010

Over the past 10 years of campaigning in Southeast Asia, Greenpeace has been instrumental in securing many victories for our environment. We at Greenpeace believe these 10 victories have had the most impact in ensuring the ability of our Earth to nurture life in all its diversity.



- President Yudhoyono pledges to protect the Indonesian forests by announcing a moratorium on all new conversions in peatlands and high conservation-carbon value forests.
- Unilever, Kraft, Nestlé and a host of multinational corporations enact policies to stop buying palm oil from companies that destroy forest and peatland in Indonesia.
- Papua government enacts policies to end illegal logging and bans timber exports from the island province of Indonesia.
- The Republic of Philippines enacts the Renewable Energy Law paving way for the massive uptake of clean energy.
- Thailand defers plans to construct 2 coal-fired power plants in Thailand's Prachuab Khiri Khan Province and commits to sourcing 20 percent of our energy needs from renewable energy by 2020 in its Power Development Plan.
- The Indonesian government defers plans of building a dangerous nuclear power plant and commits to uptake of renewable energy.
- Thailand's government introduces a stringent labeling law for all food products to identify ingredients especially any genetically modified organisms (GMOs).
- Mindoro Island in the Philippines is declared as the country's first genetically modified organism or GMO-Free zone, paving the way for 12 other GMO-Free provinces including the iconic Philippine Rice Terraces in Ifugao Province, a UNESCO Living Cultural Heritage site.
- The Asian Development Bank sets up an annual fund of US\$2 billion for development and uptake of renewable energy.
- E-jeepey, the first electric model of the iconic Philippine Jeepney, is launched by Greenpeace and Green Renewable Independent Power Producer.





The next 10 years

Ten years have passed since Greenpeace established a formal presence in Southeast Asia. The choice to expand and operate in the region was motivated by the realisation that the battle for the future of the planet will ultimately be won or lost in Asia. If Asian countries, including the fast-growing Southeast Asian economies, were to continue pursuing a development path characterised by an obsession to attain economic growth at all costs, then the world risks seeing a tragic repeat of the ecological nightmares which have plagued decades of mindless industrial growth in the West.

In fact, the climate crisis which now is our collective future is mainly a legacy of the over consuming and fossil-fuel based development paradigm pursued and still being fostered by the industrialised countries. No doubt, the responsibility for moving us away from the brink of this impending ecological meltdown rests primarily with the rich countries.

Given the many positive advances in science and technology and the unprecedented awareness and insight on environmental issues nowadays, it is also imperative for developing countries to leapfrog over and learn from the mistakes and excesses of Western industrialisation and consumerism. Otherwise, the alternative would be unthinkable. We would need six planets in the next half century if all of us were to live and develop like Americans or Europeans.

There is already an abundance of examples and initiatives which prove that communities, states and nations can do the right thing for the environment while still being able to provide for the growing needs of their populations. A decade ago, I remember cases in our region involving the blatant and indiscriminate dumping of garbage and hazardous waste coming from the industrialised countries. I was horrified to discover that in their bid to attract all kinds of investments, no matter how dirty, our countries were all so willing to sacrifice environmental, worker and community health in exchange for short-term gains.

In our early years in Southeast Asia, we campaigned heavily against these instances of toxic trade and dirty technology transfer. Victory is seen through the stricter controls now in place against such abhorrent practices and the fact that such scandals have now become less frequent, we have proven that positive and dramatic changes are not only possible, but often become the acceptable norm.

Biking for renewable energy during a two-day celebration of Greenpeace Southeast Asia's 10 years of working to protect the environment.



These and other positive trends give me the confidence to say 10 years from now, we will see a massive leap in the development of clean and energy-efficient systems across the region. Due to the major problems and increasing liabilities associated with the operation of dirty energy plants like coal and nuclear, our leaders will be able to better appreciate the wisdom and superiority of renewable energy sources. What used to be seen as alternative will someday become main stream.

Rampant deforestation especially in key places like Indonesia would be reversed and damaged ecosystems, including polluted lakes and rivers will be rehabilitated. There will be greater investments to promote sustainable and organic farming as a better and safer option to meet the increasing demand for food.

The right to clean air, clean water and safe food – essentially the right to live in a healthy and adequate environment - would be respected, observed and guaranteed like all other important civil rights and liberties.

This is the change we envision for Southeast Asia in the next 10 years. You can be sure that Greenpeace will be there to play a catalytic role in bringing about this decisive transformation of our societies. We look forward to another decade of enlightened partnership and engagement with you as we continue on this journey to make this world a better place.

greenpeace people
janos maté



On September 23, 2010, **Janos Maté** had the honour of receiving the 2010 US Environmental Protection Agency Montreal Protocol Award for his work with Greenpeace to protect the ozone layer and the climate over the past 18 years. The award ceremony took place at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC. Janos reflects upon the occasion.

Before coming to work with Greenpeace, I worked in the field of psychotherapy for nearly 20 years. So, when in 1989 I decided to take a job as a Greenpeace Canada anti-nuclear campaigner, I often wondered about the collective psychosis that was driving humanity towards the wanton destruction of our home planet. How else can we explain what could compel humans to blow up over 2,000 nuclear bombs on the very planet upon which our own existence depends?

In 1995 I sailed as the campaigner on board the *Caramba*, a Greenpeace-chartered sailboat, from Tahiti to Mururoa Atoll to protest French underground nuclear testing. Our arrival in the exclusion zone around the test site coincided with the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations. When the bomb went off my incredulity turned to deep grief and I wept. Mother Earth had just been raped. I sent messages to the UN and the rest of world from this place which, at that time, was for me the epitome of evil that humans can perpetrate.

But of course humans bring evil or great harm to the world in a myriad of ways that are not always so dramatic. Our day-to-day destruction of nature's balance is generally much more routine, much more banal or innocent. One simple example is our use of fluorocarbon chemical refrigerants in our refrigerators and air-conditioners. These chemicals, such as CFCs (commonly known as Freon) and HCFCs, are potent ozone-depleting and global-warming substances. They are the major cause of ozone layer depletion. The ozone layer is the only protective shield that life on Earth has against the deadly ultraviolet (UV-B) radiation of the Sun. Life on Earth could not exist without this protective shield.

Over the years millions of tonnes of these chemicals were emitted into the atmosphere, and the multinational chemical companies continued to produce and vigorously market them even after they had credible scientific evidence (since the 1970s) that their products could destroy the ozone layer. Now, is that not insane? And, tragically, governments for the most part were complicit with industry. By the mid-1970s governments also knew that these substances could potentially undermine life on Earth, and for nearly 12 years they did little to curb their use. Public pressure and the appearance of a massive ozone hole over the Antarctic in 1986 finally compelled governments to create the Montreal Protocol in 1987, to control and phase-out ozone-depleting substances.



In 1992 Greenpeace invited me to be a campaigner with the ozone layer protection campaign and I have been with the campaign ever since. The aim of the campaign was to put public pressure on the producers of CFCs and other ozone-depleting substances to stop producing these substances, and to demand that governments radically accelerate the phase-out schedule for these substances. Greenpeace also insisted that ozone-depleting substances (CFCs and HCFCs) must not be replaced by the chemical industry's substitutes - that is, HFCs, which are benign to the ozone layer but are very powerful greenhouse gases, and are therefore devastating for the climate. Instead, Greenpeace promoted the use of natural refrigerants, such as hydrocarbons, carbon dioxide, water and ammonia to meet our cooling needs.

Over the 18 years that I have worked on this campaign I have seen many positive developments in the world and I know that Greenpeace has made several significant contributions.

For example, Greenpeace revolutionised the global domestic refrigeration sector by developing and commercialising in 1993 the ozone and climate-friendly Greenfreeze hydrocarbon technology. Greenpeace was instrumental in the spread of this technology from Europe to most parts of the world, including China, Japan and Latin America. The organisation received the UNEP Ozone Award from the United Nations for developing and making this technology freely available. Today, there are over 400 million Greenfreeze refrigerators in the world, and it is expected that by 2020, 75% of domestic refrigeration production in the world will be using the Greenpeace technology. Greenpeace was also instrumental in the development of SolarChill, which is a solar-powered and battery-free vaccine cooler and food refrigerator designed for parts of the world that have no reliable electricity.

During those 18 years I have also seen unprecedented international cooperation within the Montreal Protocol. While the Montreal Protocol could have achieved much more over the years, it is nevertheless the most successful global environmental treaty to date. All national governments on the planet - 196 countries - have ratified it. Between 1986 and 2010 the Montreal Protocol has facilitated nearly a 97% reduction in the consumption of ozone-depleting substances, which concurrently reduced the emissions of nearly 11 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gases a year, with a net reduction of 135 billion tonnes between 1990 and 2010.

The Montreal Protocol, by establishing the Multilateral Fund, has also recognised that rich countries have a responsibility to financially assist developing countries to phase out their use of ozone-depleting substances. This responsibility arises from the fact that rich countries have historically emitted by far the lion's share of ozone-depleting substances and have therefore caused the greatest damage to the ozone layer. Through the Multilateral Fund more than 2.5 billion dollars have been disbursed to 147 developing countries to help them comply with the Montreal Protocol.


The fact is, 2.5 billion dollars to save life on the planet is not a lot of money. Consider that the US spends nearly 11 billion dollars a month on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Furthermore, all the costs have, until now, been borne only by the taxpayers of donor countries. The chemical corporations have meanwhile steadily profited from the continued sale of their ozone-depleting or global warming fluorocarbon products (CFCs, HCFCs, HFCs), and they have not been held accountable by governments to pay any reparations for the damage that their products have caused - and continue to cause - to the environment and human health.

Despite the successes of the Montreal Protocol, scientists do not expect the ozone layer to sufficiently recover until around 2050. That means that it will have taken nearly 75 years for the recovery to happen from the time that the threat of ozone layer depletion caused by man-made chemicals was first reported.

I believe that Greenpeace, along with other NGOs, played a vital role within the framework of the Montreal Protocol by persistently challenging governments to do more, and to act with greater determination and effectiveness to protect the ozone layer and the climate. The Montreal Protocol is an example of how the whole world must and can come together to meet global environmental challenges. We desperately need such level of cooperation to tackle global warming.

Much more could be said, and much more needs to be done. But, as I accepted the 2010 US EPA Montreal Protocol Award, I had two thoughts. One, that I have been very fortunate to have had the opportunity to make a difference in the world through Greenpeace. And the other - the most important lesson the ozone crisis teaches us is that it is easier to break than to fix and easier to tip than to restore nature's balance. If we don't learn that lesson, we are doomed...





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greenpeace solutions

bringing the world cup to jericho

For many, 2010 will be remembered as the year the World Cup came to South Africa, and the year that everybody discovered the joys – or otherwise – of the vuvuzela. But while the rest of the world watched the world cup being played out from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria and Polokwane for an entire month between June 11 and July 11, Greenpeace Africa's **Fiona Musana** tells us how two South Africans gave up their experience of a lifetime to make sure 30,000 South Africans could actually enjoy what is termed the biggest sporting showpiece on Earth.



For Nkopane Maphiri and Tshepo Peele, missing out on the spectacle of the World Cup was a sacrifice worth making. For Greenpeace Africa's climate energy campaigner and outreach co-ordinator, the World Cup wasn't just about soccer, it was about people - and for the people of Jericho, a small village of 30,000 people 120 kms north west of Johannesburg, the World Cup was about to pass them by.

The reasons were many, but in the end it all came down to one thing; poverty. The greatest show on Earth was taking place on its very doorstep. Rustenburg, better known for its proximity to Sun City, was hosting England and a whole brace of pool games, Pretoria was down the road, while Jo'burg, which had the opening ceremony, the opening game, two quarter finals and the finals was less than an hour away.





A high school student learns to cook food on the solar equipment.

But even if the people could have afforded the transport to get to either of the three venues, the tickets - priced for an international market and at least seven times more expensive than what a local fan would pay for a Premier Soccer League game - were beyond their reach.

The situation in Jericho was just as dire. Only half of the residents had running water, less than 10% had electricity and for those that had, the supply from Eskom was erratic to say the least. Even though the public broadcaster SABC was showing all 64 matches in the tournament, there was still no guarantee that enough villagers would be able to see the games.

It was a heaven-sent opportunity for Greenpeace Africa, an opportunity to go in to a place where there was nothing, make sure the local population did not miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime experience - and talk to them about the wonders of renewable energy and the very real perils of climate change and global warming.

And so Nkopane and Tshepo went to work. Working hand-in-hand with a local community radio station, they identified Jericho from a short list of villages that all met a stringent set of criteria; the recipient village had to have no infrastructure worth the name but not be so far from Johannesburg to make the logistics a nightmare.

"Jericho just spoke to us," explains Nkopane. "The headmaster of the school, whose hall we were going to use as a base, was very passionate. The kids, who we were going to train were so enthusiastic, it was a perfect fit."

Two weeks before the world cup kicked off, Nkopane and Tshepo arrived in Jericho. Working off an extremely tight schedule, they taught the Grade 12 pupils how to install the solar panels and build solar cookers. The plan was to create a public viewing area in the school hall, with a projector beaming selected games onto a 3.5m by 3m screen, backed up with surround sound. If the people of Jericho couldn't get to the game, then Greenpeace Africa was going to bring the World Cup in all its Technicolor glory to them - complete with atmosphere.

"When we developed the project," says Nkopane, "we wanted a turnkey solution, to be able to deliver technology that works without fail and to teach the locals to do it. Failure was not an option."

At the back of their minds, there was a concern that maybe the solar project wouldn't work, that just perhaps it would be safer to source a traditional generator as back up. That was as far as it got - a thought.

"That place has a lot of sun," Nkopane recalls. "And, you know, Eskom's power supply did go down during the world cup - but our show continued."

The hall was capable of carrying 2,000 people, but the municipality's health and safety officers would only certify it for 600. It was a guarantee that the games would have full houses every time they were showed in Jericho.

"We didn't show every game," explains Tshepo. "Obviously, we played all the Bafana Bafana games ['The Boys', the affectionate name for South Africa's national team] but we knew there wouldn't be too much interest in obscure matches like Honduras versus Greece. So we kept to the local derbies, the matches involving African teams and the favourite international sides, as well as the knockout phase of the competition."

All in all 18 games were broadcast. Tshepo and Nkopane didn't see a single one, because they were always running around making sure everything was working as it should, checking that just the right amount of people got in and those that were there enjoyed the experience in a safe and festive environment.

It paid off. They might have missed the games and wondered if they'd ever feel their toes and their ears as the mercury plummeted to -2 and -3 some nights, but there wasn't a single incident - ever.

"I had goose bumps and butterflies every time I was there," remembers Tshepo. "The people loved it, you could see it when we would leave late at night after the games how they kept on dancing in the street, singing and blowing their vuvuzelas. June 11 (the opening game when Bafana drew 1-1 against Mexico) was like New Year's Eve."

Nkopane agrees. "If you remember what April 27, 1994, was like (when South Africa went to the polls for the first time ever as a democracy), then this was a replica. There was an incredible unity of purpose as we pulled together as a nation to host an event of this nature and prove all the sceptics wrong. But if Greenpeace Africa hadn't stepped in, the community of Jericho would have known it was happening, but they wouldn't have felt that incredible spirit of excitement and pride because of the harsh reality of their lives."

And when the final whistle blew on July 11, the world cup might have been over, but the people of Jericho now have a multi purpose community hall totally powered by solar energy as a legacy of this incredible event.



Before the world cup, there was no community life after sunset, now there is. For Tshepo and Nkopane, the lessons are manifold. For a start, the pupils have been given hope. "The harsh reality of our country is that many of them wouldn't have had anything to look forward to after school. Now there is, there is a whole new career path in renewable energy. IT was so heartening to hear them take the project and make it there own. We hosted an open day and could hear them explaining to their elders exactly what they were doing in their own language, which was incredibly pleasing because there aren't that many words in Setswana to explain how solar energy works and why climate change affects everyone."

"We planted a seed," says Nkopane, "and it's now up to the local community to take it forward. In the process we learnt a lot about ourselves and about Greenpeace campaigning, a critical part of which is the fact that the local people have to become involved and build the campaign from the ground up."

The Jericho Photovoltaic Assembly project goes further than all of this though. "We need the South African government to create an enabling policy that allows for alternative power to be added to the national grid. Once we've got the regulatory framework we need to push municipalities – who are in the front line of service delivery – to roll out alternative power supplies," explains Nkopane.

"The critical lesson of Jericho, is that we could potentially power the entire village through solar – and do so at no cost to the individual. Once the local governments are behind this, you can ensure that more and more villages and their people get access to free electricity at five times the current free electricity supply of 100 kilowatt hours per household per month."

In a stroke, renewable energy could alleviate poverty and create a brand new stream of employment.

After the final whistle of the world cup was blown, Fifa president Sepp Blatter awarded South Africa a mark of nine out of ten for hosting the event.

For the Greenpeace Africa team at Jericho, they think Blatter was a bit conservative. "For what we achieved for the people of Jericho, both during the world cup and after, it has to be 10 out of 10. We changed their lives," says Tshepo.



greenpeace bears witness hungary – a journey into red hell

On 4 October, 2010, a reservoir at an alumina plant in western Hungary ruptured, releasing a tide of between 600 and 700 thousand cubic metres of highly toxic red sludge.

The disaster is one of the worst environmental catastrophes in Hungarian history. Nine people died and another 120 people were injured. The red mud flooded 800 hectares of the surrounding area, with the most severe devastation being wrought in the villages of Devecser and Kolontár, located near the reservoir.

Greenpeace International communications officer **Szabina Mozes** is from Hungary. She returned home to bear witness to the devastation. For Szabina, it wasn't a sentimental journey home, however. It would be a journey into a red hell...





Would I like to do some fieldwork with Greenpeace? Usually, I don't need to think twice about saying 'Yes' – if I actually get enough time to think it over at all – but this time I agreed immediately. Despite the short notice – I'd have only a day to pack and to organise my journey – the destination was a very special one to me: I would be going home to Hungary.

I wasn't quite sure what to expect. Of course, the images I had already seen of the disaster were horrific and spoke for themselves, but at the back of my mind there was a mixture of hope that things wouldn't be as bad as they appeared to be and a dread that I was about to step into a nightmare.

I arrived in Budapest on a Monday morning, with my laptop computer and my toothbrush. The news that my former colleagues from Greenpeace Hungary greeted me with was very worrying – they told me that the situation in the affected area was horrendous; and then they told me that they weren't exaggerating. I had two hours to get ready, jump in a car and drive into the middle of the disaster.

We stopped on the way to pick up essential equipment, such as dust masks, glasses and hazardous material (HAZMAT) protection gear. About an hour from our final destination I started to notice that the knot in my stomach was growing and growing, and getting tighter and tighter. I was becoming afraid of what I was about to be faced with.

My fears were well founded. We were about 15km away when the motorway started to change colour. Red lines were beginning to appear everywhere. Just before we entered the village through a police checkpoint, we stopped the car and put our HAZMAT gear on.

I will always remember the scene that greeted us as we drove into the village for the first time. The landscape was basically slashed in half. The bottom half was completely red, covered with toxic mud that reached about 2 to 3 metres high on the sides of the houses, trees, cars, everything. Running quickly by us, the river was also a vivid red, as if bleeding from an open wound that wouldn't heal.



I started having flashbacks to a disaster movie I had recently seen, where a volcano had erupted and the lava was destroying everything in its path, relentless and unstoppable.

We'd made an appointment to meet up with a local man called Jozsef who had lost everything in the toxic mud. His mother had died, swept away by the ruthless red wave. I fought back my tears and tried to remain calm and strong as we walked into the living room of the house in which Jozsef had been born, 57 years before. Today, 'living room' seemed to me a very inappropriate description. Jozsef said that people had known on that day that something was wrong, that something was coming - something was 'in the air'. While we walked among the ruins of his house, with mud up to our ankles, he started to recount the events of that day. "Around noon, our big guard dogs started to cry out loud and bark like they had never done before. My wife said, 'Something is wrong. Let's go and check the cows in the field.'"

They never got there. The mud raced through the village like a red death, killing everything that got in its way. When they realised what was happening, Jozsef's first thought had been to get to his mother's house. But she was no longer there. Her body was found a day later, in the next village. In this same neighbourhood, a woman was burned up to her waist by the caustic mud while she was trying to save her child's life by putting the infant on the top of a wardrobe.

I was left numb and speechless at the horror of it all.



The mud - a residue from aluminium production that is slightly radioactive, highly corrosive and contains toxic heavy metals such as lead, cadmium, arsenic and chromium - destroyed all vegetation other than the sturdiest of trees. It seeped into hundreds of houses in the villages and it contaminated the waterways. The red mud is everywhere. It is impossible to clean and as it gets drier and sunnier the toxic dust flies miles and miles away in the air. Local people, including kids, are walking on the streets without any masks or any protection.

Who is to blame for all of this tragedy? Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban has blamed human error for the devastating torrent of toxic red mud. MAL, the alumina company itself, remains silent. And this isn't the aluminium industry as people understand it around the rest of the world.

The plant in question refines bauxite to produce special calcined aluminas and aluminium hydroxides, synthetic zeolites and gallium, for sale in central and western Europe for refractories, ceramics and a wide range of aluminium-containing chemical reactants. This is not - at least not nowadays - a plant for producing alumina for aluminium smelting.

As I reflected on all this, I came across a woman waiting for a bus - public transport was still running, even though none of it had been decontaminated. She had her 3-year old child with her, and I offered them two masks, telling her that they really should wear them at all times and explaining that it would be harmful to their health not to do so. There was a look of sorrow in her eyes that told me what she was thinking - that she wouldn't be able to wear the mask 24 hours a day, that she needs to be able to get on with the everyday things in life; there was shopping to do, there are her children to feed... She took the masks and smiled at me in gratitude; but it was a smile devoid of any real hope.

Szabina helped Greenpeace activists to take samples of dust in the air near the town of Kolontár and water from the river Torna in Devecser.



I walked back to the car. I was full of mixed feelings: of anger, of sadness and a determination to find a way to change things, to make it all better and to stop it from ever happening again. As I washed the red mud off my boots, the same words kept ringing in my ears, growing louder and louder until I could no longer shake them from my thoughts. It was part of the old Native American mantra, the legend of the Warriors of the Rainbow, the mantra that Greenpeace had taken to their hearts for the last 40 years, but one that now had an added poignancy for me:

“...only after the last river has been poisoned... only then will you find money cannot be eaten.”



news from around the world

EUROPEAN UNION



Greenpeace activists symbolically decommissioned a destructive fishing trawler outside the EU Council building in Brussels. Inside, EU fisheries ministers were negotiating 2011 fishing quotas and were expected to once again set them significantly above levels recommended by scientists. Close to 90% of Europe's fish stocks are overfished. Fishing quotas are set too high because politicians are trying to maintain vast fishing fleets that are simply too big and destructive. Large fishing nations like Spain and France have received millions in subsidies for their industrial fishing vessels, replacing small scale boats with larger, more destructive ships. Greenpeace believes that fish populations must be allowed to recover to ensure healthy seas and profitable jobs long into the future. One of the main ways to achieve this will be to reduce Europe's fishing capacity.

EUROPEAN UNION



Over one million signatures calling for a moratorium on genetically modified (GM) crops were delivered by Greenpeace and Avaaz (a global web-based movement) to the EU Commissioner of Health and Consumer Policy, John Dalli. The handover of this petition marked the very first European Citizens' Initiative (ECI), which requires the EU Commission to act when it receives a request from over a million citizens. The petition signatures were also printed on the world's largest piece of art made by one man - a 3D hand-painted scene of a GM-free organic farm with agricultural biodiversity - representing the way most Europeans want their food and fields to be. When Commissioner Dalli came out to view the artwork and receive the petition he stated, "I can assure you that there is a political will to listen to everybody and one million signatures is a voice that we should listen to."

GULF OF MEXICO



Greenpeace took action in November, when activists climbed 39 metres above the water at the deepwater oil rig *Centenario*, off the coast of the State of Veracruz, in Mexico. The activists scaled the rig to call for an end to deepwater drilling. The message on the banner read 'Go Beyond Oil'. The oil rig the activists occupied was chartered by PEMEX and is currently conducting geophysics, geotechnical explorations and testing the deepwater drilling technology. There are plans for a new deepwater rig (*Bicentenario*) to join this one at the turn of the year to start exploring oil in the Cinturon Plegado Perdido, an oilfield close to the US border.

FRANCE



Greenpeace activists at the French Masters' semi-finals, demanded that the events' sponsor -international banking giant BNP Paribas – stop its 'radioactive investments', including plans to fund an obsolete and dangerous nuclear reactor in Brazil.

Six activists hung two 11 sq. metre banners from the Palais Omnisport de Bercy, calling on BNP Paribas to cancel its plans to fund the construction of the nuclear reactor Angra 3, just 150 kilometres from Rio de Janeiro. BNP Paribas, which provides more finance to nuclear industry than any other bank in the world, plans to be part of a French banking consortium that would provide a reported €1.1billion for the project.



Kumi Naidoo addresses protesters at the anti-nuclear demonstration in Germany opposing the transportation of CASTOR rail containers of reprocessed German nuclear waste.

In early November, the CASTOR (Cask for Storage and Transport of Radioactive material) nuclear waste transport reached its final destination at an interim storage facility in Gorleben, Germany, after the longest journey ever in the history of this radioactive transport. Over a period of approximately 92 hours the nuclear transport faced more resistance and peaceful direct action from the local population and their supporters than ever before; their clear demand was that Germany confirmed its commitment to a nuclear phase-out now.

On the final night of the transport, the train was stopped for several hours by acts of non-violent direct action on a scale never before seen in the region, which has been the site of similar protests against transports of nuclear waste since 1997. Approximately 10,000 demonstrators – including local residents, politicians, environmental groups, football clubs, unions and supporters coming from all over Germany and beyond – occupied the railway tracks near Dannenberg, a small town approximately 10 kilometres from the final destination. In one spot alone 5,000 people spent a cold night, sitting and sleeping on the tracks in order to stop the passage of the dangerous radioactive convoy. Farmers – who have always played an important role in the anti-CASTOR protests – they aided the sit-ins on the tracks by blocking police supply lines. Even seasoned nuclear campaigners participating in this blockade were awe-struck by the size and power of the resistance around Dannenberg.

Greenpeace Germany took peaceful direct action alongside these thousands of anti-nuclear demonstrators. In one instance, the nuclear waste transport found its way barred by a truck belonging to Greenpeace, which was masquerading as a beer truck and blocking the road leading to Gorleben.

The truck successfully held up the transport for 12 hours as police worked to remove several anti-nuclear activists locked to the truck and then finally remove the 'beer truck' itself.

These combined efforts blocked the radioactive transport at every opportunity. The delays and police efforts in clearing the blockades illustrate clearly to the German government and the nuclear industry that their actions to prolong nuclear energy in Germany are taken undemocratically – without the consent of the German people. In fact, the decision reached in 2001 to phase out nuclear by the end of 2023 was a compromise and it received a wide consensus in German society. The current government has blown this consensus for the sake of extra profits for large utilities and the nuclear industry – and it is now facing the outcome of its short-sighted policy decision. The world looks towards Germany to lead on renewable energy – and the German people have made their choice clear. Now it is up to their government to reflect that choice and reinstate the nuclear phase out. Other actors involved, or considering involvement, in the nuclear industry cannot ignore the unprecedented 92 hours of protest the CASTOR nuclear transport has sparked and the worldwide attention it has received.

The anti-CASTOR protestors not only sent out a clear and strong message to the German government, the nuclear industry, and the world that nuclear energy is not an option. They also set an example for the whole world of the raw power of peaceful protest to challenge both government and the nuclear industry. Their historic resistance will no doubt continue to be an inspiration for all of us working towards a future where dangerous nuclear energy is a thing of the past.

greenpeace ships the sirius

In November, former captains, campaigners and crew gathered in Amsterdam to raise a toast to a creature of steel and wood and rope which had been their home, their guardian and their fierce champion.



Greenpeace International's **Brian Fitzgerald** joined in the festivities as we said our final farewells to the Greenpeace ship, the *Sirius*...

The *Sirius* was launched as a Greenpeace ship in 1981, and for nearly two decades sailed the waters of the North Sea and the Mediterranean, notching her rails with arrests and victories against environmental abuses that were then commonplace, many of which today would be four-star scandals of major media magnitude in Europe: the dumping of raw titanium dioxide waste into European rivers, the tipping of barrels of radioactive waste into the North Sea, the slaughter of whales off Gibraltar by Russian whaling ships, the harvesting of red coral with iron drag bars.

She placed artificial reefs designed to snag illegal driftnets, her crew boarded radioactive waste ships and occupied cranes to stop the loading of deadly cargo. She faced Russian and American war ships, painting them with nuclear symbols to identify them as carrying nuclear weapons at a time when neither side would confirm or deny their presence. She called Italy's attention to the presence of cruise missiles at a US

submarine base at La Maddalena, and found radiation on the seabed where none was supposed to be.

She hosted a concert by the Waterboys in Dublin, she helped found our office in Greece, she carried Greenpeace's first message to Africa. She fought radioactive waste discharges in Sellafield and Cherbourg, and she campaigned in the Adriatic and the Irish sea.

She was shot at, rammed, and arrested. And she was loved.

She has spent her last days at a wharf in the Netherlands, where children - my own sons included - have gone with their school classes to spin the steering wheel, try on a survival suit, sit in one of those rubber boats, and hear of her history and the issues she worked on. But the school programme has been expensive to run, the ship has become increasingly expensive to keep afloat in a place that's safe for children, and the decision has been made to find a new home for her at a maritime museum, or as an historic bed-and-breakfast, or failing that, to take her apart for recycling.

Somehow at this point, our farewell party turned into a meeting. A classic crew meeting in which everyone asked if there wasn't something we all could do to keep her going, or to send her off with one last campaign, or to commandeer her in an act of mutiny against the forces of bureaucracy and budgets. The meeting concluded without a clear conclusion. Greenpeace will retire the *Sirius* from her educational duties, but beyond that her future remains undecided.

The *Sirius* was named for a star, the brightest star in the night sky, sometimes called the Dog Star, and a faithful friend to navigators since human beings set out in ships. In the 19th century, it was discovered that one reason it appears so bright is that it's actually two stars, a binary pair, set in a luminous cluster.

Whatever the fate of the wood and steel and rope of the *Sirius* may be, her memory will be kept bright by the companion stars who turned up to see her off: the crew and captains that brought her story to life, and sailed her, ever true, into a place in history.



Gerda Stet
is one of
Greenpeace's
most famous
supporters -
known as
'the lady of
the locks',

**for many years she has welcomed
Greenpeace ships as they come
through the locks in IJmuiden
on their way back to Amsterdam.**

**She has many fond memories
of the *Sirius*.**

The *Sirius* was the first Greenpeace ship I became involved with, back in the 80s, and I've welcomed her back through the locks many times. Once, when she was returning from an action in Cherbourg, I got a phone call from the Greenpeace Netherlands office - as always when any of the Greenpeace ships were returning to Amsterdam - only this time I was asked if I could bring some fruit to the ship because there was nothing left onboard. It was so nice to be able to pass down the bags of fruit to the ship as it waited in the lock and shortly after that every crew member came up with some fruit in their hands - it made me very happy.

After her last trip the *Sirius* became an educational ship - schoolchildren could visit her and organise their own actions to protect nature where they lived; they could try on survival suits and get the feeling of what it was like onboard a Greenpeace ship. They always walked down the gangway back ashore with a big smile on their faces.

The farewell party for the *Sirius* was held on 12 November, 2010. What a great party! There were so many stories, so many people pleased to see each other again. The *Sirius* has a special place in our hearts, so of course the big question was what will happen to her? The *Sirius* is no longer a part of the Greenpeace fleet, but the great memories will never leave us. I wish her all the best for the future and hope that we can still visit her one day!"

Dear friends

Dear friends

We hope that you have enjoyed this edition of The Quarterly. We have taken the opportunity of combining the third and fourth editions of the year to bring you a double issue that looks back at some of the major events of the latter half of 2010. The Deepwater Horizon oil rig disaster, the Hungarian toxic mud disaster - not to mention many other events such as the collapse of mines in Chile and China and the forest fires that raged in Russia - made the year feel like a particularly grim one. But always there are glimmers of hope for a brighter, happier and greener future, as shown in this issue by the victory in the Finnish pine forests and by the inspiring actions taken by Greenpeace Africa during the World Cup.

2011 is Greenpeace's 40th anniversary, and throughout the year The Quarterly will be celebrating the rich history and major victories that Greenpeace has enjoyed. We're also looking forward to another successful and exciting year of acting to change attitudes and behaviours, of protecting and conserving the environment and of promoting peace.

None of this is possible without your fantastic support, and we extend our thanks and gratitude.

We want to continue bringing you the very best in The Quarterly, so please do tell us what you enjoy, and what you would like to see more of. If you have any feedback, suggestions or comments that you would like to share, please write to us at the following address:

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Our very best wishes,

Karen
and
Steve

Quarterly 2010.3 & 4

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Greenpeace is an independent global campaigning organisation that acts to change attitudes and behaviour, to protect and conserve the environment and to promote peace.

28 offices in over 40 countries – across Europe, the Americas, Asia, the Pacific and Africa...Greenpeace; truly global

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